Delores G. Kelley, Chair Brian J. Feldman, Vice Chair 3 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401 SB 658 Supporting

Dear Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and Members of the Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of collective bargaining rights for graduate employees. I have worked in higher education all of my life, and this is my fourth year working as a graduate employee for an academic program. I know, from experience, how vital it is for graduate workers to be able to collectively represent their interests to the university. By passing this legislation, you will give us the opportunity to work together to ensure we have access to the resources we need without incurring more debt.

Sincerely,

Zachary Johnson Ph.D. Student, American Studies Department Graduate Assistant 3712 Marlbrough Way, College Park, MD 20740. zachkjoh@gmail.com